

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 18, line 14 et seq. to read as follows:

FIG. 13 illustrates, with additional specificity, a method of producing a fuel cell electrode according to the present invention. According to this method, one or more properties of the manufacturing process for producing the catalyst layer may be controlled so as to greatly increase the operational life and discharge rate of a fuel cell employing this catalyst layer in an electrode. The properties that may be controlled are: (1) the ratio of platinum catalyst to carbon powder used in preparing a catalyst paste, (2) the thickness of the dried catalyst layer, and (3) the drying rate for drying the catalyst paste forming the catalyst layer. If controlling the catalyst to carbon powder ratio (CCR) is desired in Step 1301, a ratio in the range of about 5% to about 20% by weight of catalyst to carbon powder is selected 1303. If controlling the CCR is not desired or is desired in combination with another control parameter, a decision is made whether to control the thickness of the dried catalyst layer in Step 1305. If the thickness is to be controlled, a thickness in the range of about 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 25  $\mu\text{m}$  is selected in Step 1307. If controlling neither the CCR nor the thickness is desired or controlling one or both of these parameters in

combination with the drying rate is desired, a decision is made whether to control the drying rate of the applied catalyst paste in Step 1309. If controlling the drying rate is desired, a drying rate in the range of about 10 to about 25 milligrams/square centimeter-minutes ( $\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2\cdot\text{min}$ ) is selected in step 1311.